

STATEMENT OF GOVERNOR HALEY BARBOUR
Wednesday, December 27, 2006

I am issuing an Executive Order today that all flags at Mississippi state buildings be flown at half-staff beginning Thursday for a period of 30 days in honor of former President Gerald R. Ford, who died Tuesday at his home in California at the age of 93.

President Ford helped the country heal its wounds during a difficult time. He was direct and plain-spoken, and did what he thought was right whether it was politically popular or not. He was a totally decent man who demonstrated that politics does not have to be personal or mean spirited

It is out of respect for this great American that we fly our flags at half-staff for the next month.

After the 1976 Republican National Convention, I went to work for the Ford campaign and ran seven states in the South for him; in the 1990s as chairman of the Republican National Committee I had the chance to work with him often. He always set a good example for those of us who worked around him.

Marsha and I are deeply saddened by the death of President Ford and extend our heartfelt sympathy to his family.

#